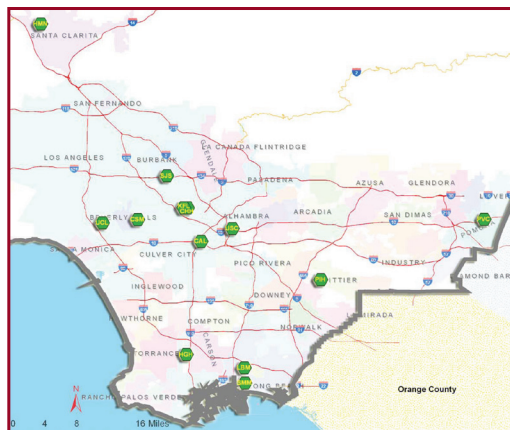




How does **Los Angeles County (LAC)** benefit from a **DRC** program:

LAC is a very vast and diverse County covering approximately 4,000 square mile area including mountains, valleys, deserts and an island (Catalina). Comprised of 88 cities and serving a population of 10 million people, the challenges are great when responding to medical disasters. The complexity of the healthcare community adds to these challenges with over 100 acute care hospitals of which 73 are 9-1-1 receiving hospitals, hundreds of clinics, over 400 long term care facilities, more than 50 public and private EMS provider agencies and thousands of private practices and specialty services. The Disaster Resource Center (DRC) program was developed to assist the healthcare community work together regionally on emergency preparedness and response.

Thirteen hospitals are designated as DRCs working within ten geographic regions located throughout the County. Each DRC region is assigned 8-10 “umbrella hospitals”, that they work with in planning, training, exercises and facilitating a regional disaster plan. EMS provider agencies, clinics and other healthcare entities are included in this planning to ensure a streamlined workable plan.



What do **DRC's** offer?

DRC's are equipped with:

- Tent shelters to house at least 40 patients & support equipment including:
 - Cots/gurneys
 - Heaters, Lighting, Generators
 - Tables and Chairs
 - HEPA Filtration system
 All the above is contained in a mobile trailer for ease of deployment
- Medical Supply cache
- Pharmaceutical cache
- Ventilators (full size and portable)
- Communication equipment - radios, walkie talkies, ham radio, etc
- Call Back – Notifier System
- Staff to manage the program

Roles of the **DRC** for disaster preparedness

- Coordinate Surge Capacity in geographical area
- Work with “umbrella hospitals” and other healthcare entities in coordination of resources, drills, training
- Store pharmaceutical caches
- Store and maintain tents, cots, ventilators and medical supplies to share, as needed
- Coordinate “shared staff” requirements
- Facilitate PPE and decontamination training for staff
- Assist with The Joint Commission Standards compliance
- Share plans and resources for disaster assistance



Successes to Date

- Greater communication between facilities
- Regional Disaster Plans have been developed and information shared
- Preparedness is based on an “all hazards” approach with an emphasis on terrorism preparedness
- Emphasis on Pediatric Preparedness by coordinating with Children’s Hospital, Los Angeles
- County wide including the DRC’s, there are 84 hospitals receiving grant funding to enhance hospital disaster preparedness with more hospitals added each year
- Funding is making all the difference - plans are coming to fruition with HPP dollars.

Los Angeles County – EMS Agency

Jacqueline Rifenburg, RN, MICN
Disaster Resource Center Program Manager
jrifenburg@dhs.lacounty.gov
(562) 347-1645

Roel Amara
HPP Manager
ramara@dhs.lacounty.gov
(562) 347-1598

Kay Fruhwirth
Hospital Preparedness Program Coordinator
Kfruhwirth@dhs.lacounty.gov
(562) 347-1602
10100 Pioneer Blvd., Suite 220
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670



Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

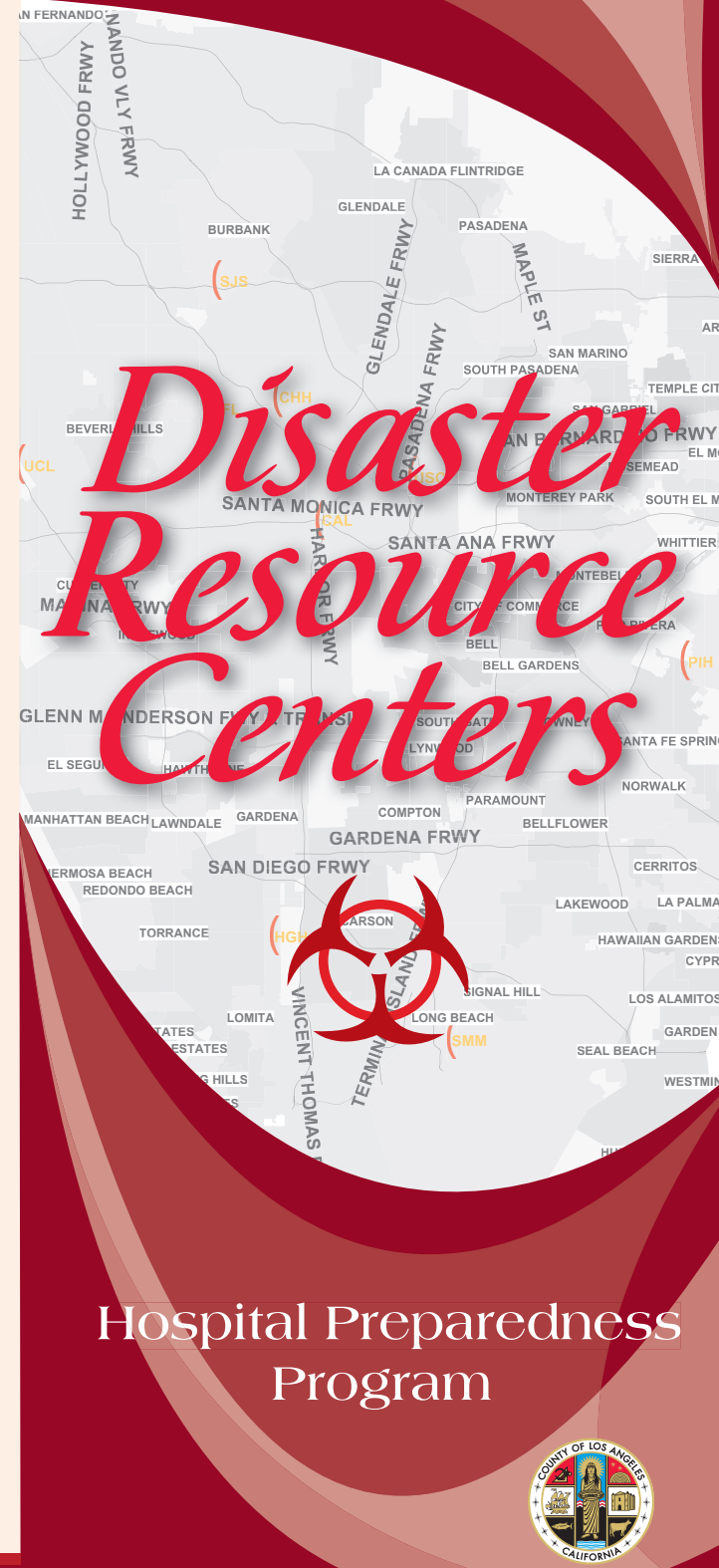
Gloria Molina
First District

Mark Ridley-Thomas
Second District

Zev Yaroslavsky
Third District

Don Knabe
Fourth District

Michael D. Antonovich
Fifth District



Hospital Preparedness Program

